Sale of rare films as waste

2468.SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pune based National Film Archives of India sold around 25,000 film reels as waste, last year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many of those reels related to old and rare titles of which copies may not be available anywhere; and

(c) if so, the action Government has taken in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) The National Film Archive of India (NFAI) weeded out 15,565 reels last year, after they were declared as unserviceable by a Committee constituted by NFAI in February, 2003 for this purpose after being approved by the Director of the said archive. After completing the necessary formalities the material was disposed of in July 2008.

(b) As informed by NFAI, a few old titles had to be weeded out for the reasons mentioned in reply to part (a) above. However, these films could be available with the concerned producers, directors or the laboratories.

(c) Government has undertaken an ambitious project of digitizing and restoring the films available in NFAI, to avoid permanent loss of the film heritage.

Action against broadcasters

2469.SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to come down heavily on broadcasters for content code violation;

(b) if so, how many warnings and advisories have been issued to the broadcasters and the details thereof: and

(c) the details of action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) All the private satellite Television channels are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the rules framed thereunder. Whenever any violation is brought to the notice, either by complaint or *suo motu,* the Ministry examines the matter and appropriate action is taken as per Rules.

(b) and (c) So far 111 Advisories/ Warnings have been issued to different Private TV channels for violation of different provisions of the Programme and Advertising Codes. Details are given in the Statement.